

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A Coalesced wax particles on a surface produced in accordance with the steps of:

providing a coating composition comprising particles of a polyolefin wax suspended in a liquid or particles of a mixture of components of comprising polyolefin waxes suspended in a liquid phase, wherein the polyolefin wax or the components in the mixture of polyolefin waxes are selected from the group consisting of polyethylene waxes, polypropylene waxes, and oxidized polyethylene waxes and oxidized polypropylene waxes and where the boiling point or boiling point range of the liquid phase is lower than the melting point or melting point range of the polyolefin wax or the mixture of polyolefin waxes,

waxes, and wherein applying the coating composition to a surface

is applied to a surface, evaporating the liquid phase is evaporated from the applied coating composition, and subjecting the dried, applied coating composition is subjected to a heating treatment to coalesce said wax particles.

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~coating~~  
~~composition~~~~coalesced wax particles on a surface~~ according to  
claim 1 wherein the liquid phase of the coating composition  
comprises an ~~alcohol~~, preferably ethyl ~~alcohol~~, and ~~water~~  
~~alcohol and water.~~

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~coating composition~~  
~~according to any of claims~~~~coalesced wax particles on a surface~~  
~~according to claim 1~~ wherein the coating composition,  
calculated on weight basis, contains:

~~polyolefin wax/mixture of polyolefin waxes 1 - 25%,~~  
~~preferably 9 - 13%, 1 - 25 % and liquid phase 99 - 75%, preferably~~  
~~91 - 87%. 99 - 75 %.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~coating~~  
~~composition~~~~coalesced wax particles on a surface~~ according to  
~~claims~~claim 3 wherein the coating composition, calculated on  
weight basis, contains up to 10% auxiliary agents selected  
from the group consisting of diluting agents, dispersing  
agents, conservation agents, emulsifying agents, and colouring  
agents.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~coating~~  
~~composition~~ ~~coalesced~~ wax particles on a surface according to  
claim 1 wherein the polyolefin wax or one of the components in  
the mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended in the coating  
composition is a polyethylene wax.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~coating~~  
~~composition~~ ~~coalesced~~ wax particles on a surface according to  
claim 5 wherein the particle size of the polyethylene wax is  
between 0.1 and 100  $\mu\text{m}$ , ~~preferably between 2 and 25  $\mu\text{m}$ , in~~  
~~particular between 4 and 20  $\mu\text{m}$ .~~

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~coating~~  
~~composition~~ ~~coalesced~~ wax particles on a surface according to  
claim 5 wherein the melting point of the polyethylene wax is  
between 70 and 200°C, ~~preferably between 90 and 150°C., in~~  
~~particular between 90 and 120°C.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~coating~~  
~~composition~~ ~~coalesced~~ wax particles on a surface according to  
claim 5 wherein the polyethylene wax is a high-density  
polyethylene, HDPE.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~coating~~  
~~composition~~ ~~coalesced~~ wax particles on a surface according to  
claim 1 wherein the polyolefin wax or one of the components in  
the mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended in the coating  
composition is a polypropylene wax.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a  
surface comprising the steps of

- providing a coating composition comprising  
particles of a polyolefin wax suspended in a liquid phase or  
particles of a mixture of components of polyolefin waxes  
suspended in a liquid phase, wherein the polyolefin wax or the  
components in the mixture of polyolefin waxes are selected  
from the group consisting of polyethylene waxes, polypropylene  
waxes, and oxidized polyethylene waxes and oxidized  
polypropylene waxes, and where the boiling point or boiling  
point range of the liquid phase is lower than the melting  
point or melting point range of the polyolefin wax or the  
mixture of polyolefin waxes,

- applying said coating composition to the  
surface,

- evaporating said liquid phase from the applied  
coating composition, and

- subjecting said dried, applied coating

composition to a heating treatment to coalesce said wax particles.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10 wherein the coating composition is applied to the surface by spraying.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10 wherein the coating composition is applied to the surface in an amount of 50 to 350 ml per m<sup>2</sup>.

13. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein the surface is selected from the group consisting of a surface ~~surfaces~~ of monuments; buildings; constructions having surface structures made of steel, aluminium, sandstone, marble, granite, slate, cement, fibre-reinforced cement, bricks, tiles, fibre glass-reinforced materials, and wood; public and private transportation vehicles ~~like busses, trains, and trolleys~~; road and traffic signs; sheets; and ship hulls.

14. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture comprising a structure with a surface ~~obtainable~~ obtained by the method according to claim 10.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~A method of providing a surface with a protecting coating by applying to the surface a coating composition comprising particles of a polyolefin wax or of a mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended in a liquid phase, wherein the polyolefin wax or the components in the mixture of polyolefin waxes are selected from the group consisting of polyethylene waxes, polypropylene waxes, and oxidized polyethylene and polypropylene waxes, evaporating said liquid phase from the applied coating composition;~~  
~~subjecting~~The method of treating a surface according to claim 10, wherein said dried, applied coating composition is subjected to a heating treatment to raise the temperature of the dried coating composition to bring said particles of a polyolefin wax or of a mixture of polyolefin waxes into a coalescing state allowing said wax particles to provide a continuous coating of the ~~surface~~, surface, and allowing said heat treated coating composition to consolidate to a protective coating.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 15 wherein the coating composition is applied to the surface by spraying.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 15 wherein the coating composition is applied to the surface in an amount of 50 to 350 ml per m<sup>2</sup>.

18. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein the surface is selected from ~~a surface in the group consisting of surfaces~~ of monuments; buildings; constructions having surface structures made of steel, aluminium, sandstone, marble, granite, slate, cement, fibre-reinforced cement, bricks, tiles, fibre glass-reinforced materials, and wood; public and private transportation vehicles ~~like busses, trains, and trolleys~~; road and traffic signs; sheets; and ship hulls.

19. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture comprising a structure with a surface ~~obtainable~~obtained by the method according to claim 15.

20. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture comprising a structure with a surface ~~obtainable~~obtained by use of the coating composition according to claim 1.

21. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a sheet comprising the steps of providing a coating composition comprising particles of a polyolefin wax or of a mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended in a liquid phase, wherein the polyolefin wax or the components in the mixture of polyolefin waxes are selected from the group consisting of polyethylene waxes, polypropylene waxes, and oxidized polyethylene and polypropylene waxes, applying The method according to claim 10, wherein said surface is the surface of a sheet and where said coating composition is applied to at least one surface of the sheet, evaporating said liquid phase from the applied coating composition, and subjecting said dried, sheet.

applied coating composition to a heating treatment to coalesce said wax particles.

22. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 21, wherein the sheet comprises is comprising an adhesive layer having a first major adhesive layer side and a second major adhesive layer side which defines the bottom surface of the sheet and a film having a first major film side and a second major film side, said second major film side being bonded to the first major adhesive layer side, and the coating composition being applied to said first major film side.

23. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a coated sheet comprising the steps of applying according to claim 15, wherein said surface is the surface of a sheet and where said coating composition is applied to at least one surface of the sheet a coating composition comprising particles of a polyolefin wax or of a mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended in a liquid phase, wherein the polyolefin wax or the components in sheet.

the mixture of polyolefin waxes are selected from the group consisting of polyethylene waxes, polypropylene waxes, and oxidized polyethylene and polypropylene waxes, evaporating said liquid phase from the applied coating composition, subjecting said dried, applied coating composition to a heating treatment to raise the temperature of the dried coating composition to bring said particles of a polyolefin wax or of a mixture of polyolefin waxes into a coalescing state allowing said wax particles to provide a continuous coating of the sheet, and allowing said heat treated coating composition to consolidate to a protective coating.

24. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 23, wherein the sheet is a film.

25. (Currently Amended) A method according to claims 23, wherein the sheet ~~is comprising~~comprises an adhesive layer having a first major adhesive layer side and a second major adhesive layer side which defines the bottom surface of the sheet and a film having a first major film side and a second major film side, said second major film side being bonded to the first major adhesive layer side; and the coating composition being applied to said first major film side.

26. (Currently Amended) A method according to claims 23, wherein the sheet ~~is comprising~~comprises an adhesive layer having a first major adhesive layer side and a second major adhesive layer side which defines the bottom surface of the sheet and two or more films each having a first major film side and a second major film side, and each film is stacked upon another film such that a second major film side of a film above is bonded to a first major film side of a film below except the lowest film in the stacked which has its second major film side bonded to the first major adhesive layer side, and the ~~coating topmost film side is subjected to~~

said method of coating composition is applied to the topmost side of the film.

27. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 23, wherein the sheet is comprising comprises two or more pairs of layers, each pair of layers comprising an adhesive layer having a first major adhesive layer side and a second major adhesive layer side, and a film having a first major film side and a second major film side with the second major film side being bonded to the first major adhesive layer side; and each pair of layers is stacked upon another pair of layers such that a second major adhesive layer side of a pair above is bonded to a first major film side of a pair of layers below, and the topmost coating film side is subjected to said method of coating composition being applied to the topmost side of said film.

28. (Previously Presented) An article comprising a sheet treated by the method of any of claims 21 or 23.

29. (Previously Presented) An article according to claim 28 further comprising a liner bonded to a major sheet surface.

30. (Previously Presented) A structure which has been covered fully or in part with an article of claim 28, wherein the structure is selected from the group consisting of buildings, parts of buildings, elevators, windows, doors, tiles, walls, partitions, furniture, signs, bill boards, artwork, buses, trains, subway-trains, and automobiles.

31-89. (Cancelled)